



Saguaro National Park (West)

Naturalist Program Schedule

Programs meet at the Red Hills Visitor Center, 2700 N. Kinney Road, and last 30 to 45 minutes, unless noted otherwise. All programs are subject to change. Call the visitor center at (520) 733-5158 for updates the day of the program. Program listings can also be found at www.nps.gov/sagu.

July 1, 8, 15 10:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. **What is the Reason for the Saguaro Fruit Harvest?** *Talk: 30 minutes*
For over a hundred years the Tohono O'odham have harvested the saguaro fruit every summer. Come participate in a cultural experience and learn about this enriching tradition. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 2, 7, 14, 21, 22, 29, 30 10:15 a.m. **ALSO** 14, 22, 28, 29 2:15 p.m. **Desert Dragons** *Talk: 30 minutes*
What's a desert dragon? Clue: It's not a bearded dragon and google isn't going to help much. Come discover these fascinating creatures and what's myth or fact in this fun and informative talk. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 11:15 a.m. **Play Sonoran Desert Bingo!** *Game: 1 hour*
Learn about the plants and animals of the Sonoran Desert while enjoying a rousing version of Bingo! Get five in a row – down, across, or diagonally – and win a non-monetary prize. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 3, 16, 23 10:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. **Cooking with Prickly Pear** *Demonstration: 45 min*
Learn how you can incorporate prickly pear into your diet. A live cooking demonstration will show you how to prepare and cook prickly pear. Prepare for a savory and sweet treat. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 6, 13, 27 3:15 p.m. **Against All Odds** *Talk: 30 minutes*
A saguaro might produce 40 million seeds in its lifetime, but only one or two seedlings will survive into maturity. Discover how the "deck is stacked" against their survival and what conditions are needed for growth into the majestic icon of the desert.

July 6, 20 10:15 a.m. **Mountain Lions: Beyond the Myth** *Talk: 45 minutes*
Envision a puma stalking its prey, then uncover the true nature of this elusive but essential predator. Misunderstood, maligned, and nearly eradicated by settlers, the mountain lion remains threatened by human encroachment. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 3:15 p.m. **Lizards are Hot, Lizards are Cool** *Talk: 30 minutes*
Lizards are small denizens of the desert that are a critical component of our desert community. Find out what it means when they do pushups or exhibit other odd behaviors. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 7, 14, 21, 28 3:15 p.m. **Kangaroo Rat: Super Survivor** *Talk: 45 minutes*
Learn about the remarkable behavioral and physical adaptations these rodents possess that allow them to survive harsh desert environments. Find out how this nocturnal animal escapes predators, evades heat, and endures aridity. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 12, 26 3:15 p.m. **Meet the Cuckoo of the Desert: The Roadrunner** *Talk: 30 minutes*
The Greater Roadrunner is a popular and charismatic member of the desert community. Join a park naturalist for a Power Point presentation about the natural history, behaviors, and other facts about this colorful creature. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 5, 19 3:15 p.m. **How Do They Do It?** *Walk: 15 minutes, 100 yards*
Discover how the plants and animals of the Sonoran Desert have adapted to the harsh conditions of this unique environment. (This program also is offered in Spanish July 5, 19 at 12:15 p.m.) *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 2, 4, 11, 12, 13, 20, 25, 26, 27, 30 2:15 p.m. **Javelinas: Our Desert Neighbors** *Talk: 30 minutes*
Sometimes referred to as the "desert pig," the javelina is not a pig at all. Learn about this intriguing creature and how it survives in this arid environment. *Wheelchair accessible.*
(This program also will be given in Spanish at 12:15 p.m. July 2, 23)

July 14, 21, 28 11:15 a.m. **ALSO** July 2, 16, 23, 30 3:15 p.m. **Living With Giants** *Talk: 45 minutes*
The saguaro celebrates events and faces challenges throughout its life. A biologist explains how it provides shelter and substance for wildlife; when it flowers; its growth patterns; and how it fights for survival against drought, lightning, frost, and other dangers. *Wheelchair accessible.*

Daytime Walks

July 13, 27 10:15 a.m. **Sonoran Secrets to Desert Survival** *Talk and Walk: 60 minutes, 200 yards*
Begin with comments on the shaded patio, then stroll a sidewalk next to the Visitor Center and identify the most common hazards hidden in the desert, uncover survival strategies of native plants and animals, and acquire practical tips to ensure your safety, particularly as temperatures rise with the approach of summer. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 3, 11, 12, 13, 20, 25, 26, 27 11:15 a.m. **Spiny, Shady, and COOL!** *Walk: 30 minutes, 100 yards*
Come for a short walk and discover the great variety of cacti that inhabit this unique and fascinating desert.

Spanish Language Programs

July 5, 19 12:15 p.m. **¿Como Pueden Sobrevivir?** *Walk: 15 minutes, 100 yards*
(Spanish version of **How Do They Do It?**) Charla en Español donde discutiremos como las plantas y animales del desierto Sonorense se han adaptado a través de los años para poder sobrevivir y florecer en nuestro único y duro ambiente *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 2, 23 12:15 p.m. **Jabalíes, Nuestros Vecinos Del Desierto** *Talk: 30 minutes*
(Spanish version of **Javelina: Our Desert Neighbors**) Usted está invitado a acompañar a un naturalista del parque durante su presentación "Jabalíes, Nuestros Vecinos del Desierto." A veces referido como el cerdo del desierto, averigüe por qué el jabalí no es un cerdo. Descubra la historia natural de este fascinante animal y cómo se las arregla para sobrevivir en este ambiente árido. *Wheelchair accessible.*